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ABSTRACT

Designed for practitioners, this book provides ideas and strategies for designing, developing, and implementing the Youth Transition Program (YTP) for students with disabilities and special needs in Oregon. Chapter 1 describes the following: background and need for collaborative school-to-work (STW) programs; STW program purposes and components, including research on their applicability for students with disabilities and other special needs; and guiding principles for the book's ideas and strategies. The school-based, work-based, and connecting activities components as defined in STW legislation and literature are used across the remaining chapters as the general framework for building collaborative STW programs for all students. Chapter 2 includes ideas and strategies for helping students identify and prioritize the career/transition goals they believe are important. Students should structure the services they receive in the program and design school and community-based instructional options to help learn the skills they have identified as important. Chapter 3 includes ideas and strategies for creating, implementing, and evaluating a variety of work-based learning opportunities for students. Chapter 4 focuses on providing postprogram placement support and follow-up support services. Chapter 5 describes strategies for managing and evaluating STW programs. Appendixes following each chapter provide sample forms. The book contains 56 references and an index. (YLB)

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